

SUEZ L.F. - Deles. Thurs. Sept 6, 1956

The Suez Committee, today, took time out - from negotiations with Egyptian President Nasser. The five man group wanting to consider, ~~and~~ among themselves, the Nasser plan for the Canal.

They're trying to find some sort of middle ground between the American suggestion - drawn up by Secretary of State ~~John Foster~~ Dulles, which calls for the Suez waterway to be operated by an international commission. And the Nasser demand - that there be nothing more than an advisory board, connected with the U N. How to find a compromise between those two schemes - that's what the committee was debating today.

The next session will be - on Saturday. Not tomorrow - because Friday is the Moslem Sabbath. The ~~and~~ committee chairman, Prime Minister Menzies, ~~hopes~~ hopes to complete the dealings with Nasser on Saturday.

In London, Prime Minister Anthony Eden, today, called Parliament back from vacation - for a special session on

Wednesday. Topic - the Suez Canal. No further details are given, except for the mention - that, by Wednesday, the Suez committee will have completed its negotiations with ~~Carter~~ Cairo. And - will have made a report.

In London, this emergency session of Parliament aroused immediate rumors - that maybe it's being called to authorize the use of force in the dispute. If the present palaver with Nasser produces no real result.

Troop landings on the island of Cyprus, today.

French soldiers and ~~arm~~^{er}men ashore. Twenty-seven hundred -
and another two thousand are expected on Cyprus in several
days.

French forces joining the British - in a military
buildup. Underscoring the declarations of London ~~and~~ and Paris
- that force will be used, if a satisfactory settlement
cannot be obtained in the Suez Canal crisis.

BOOBY TRAP

A new trick of the Cypriot underground - got into the news today. Could hardly help from getting into the news - because it was played on the London Bureau of the United Press.

A package arrived - addressed to the U P. Opened - by Picture Editor Leo Stoecker. Who might have felt - mighty blue about it. The package - containing a booby-trap. Which, however, failed to work. If it had gone off, Editor Stozcker would have been - blue, indeed.

The package was triggered, so that anyone who opened it would be sprayed, ~~With~~ a blue dye. The pigment in the package a bright indellible color - azure, sapphire, or any other word for blue.

There ~~was~~ was a note saying - it was a present from the underground on Cyprus. All sounding fantastic - like ~~was~~ a ~~rhapsody~~ rhapsody in blue.

BRITISH JET PLANE

In London, ~~there's~~ a journalistic uproar about military secrecy - and a hush-hush new fighter plane. London aviation writers - refused all news photographs - not allowed near the Hawker Hunter jet. Precautions, that could be reasonable - because you wouldn't want the Russians to get in on a military secret. So what's the complaint?

Well, British papers, today, published the news - that, at the Farnborough air show, the Hawker-Hunter jet was flown. The pilot? A Soviet air force General. Russian names can be jawbreakers, but I'll make a try at this - Lieutenant General Alexei Blagoveschensky. He flew the jet; that closely guarded military secret - ^{flew it} for forty minutes.

Studying performance - and breaking the sound barrier in a dazzling flight.

So no wonder the British news reporters and photographers are screaming. No information given to them, but all information given to a Red Air Force ^{ace,} General Blagoveschensky

OKINAWA

The Marine Corps tragedy at Okinawa is an example - of the treacherous perils of tropical waters. A quiet ocean off a pleasant ~~beach~~ beach - no breakers or lashing waves. Nothing - but hidden disaster.

Twenty-three leathernecks had been engaged in military exercises on the island. They were hot and tired - and a dip in the ~~sea~~ ocean was in order. An officer gave them a lecture on safety precautions while in ~~swimming~~ swimming - but there seemed mighty little reason for that. The sea was a dead calm. So, in they went, and ~~there's~~ here's how an eyewitness tells it!:-

"Before they were waist deep in water, they were in trouble," he says. "They were knocked from their feet by a vicious undercurrent, and tumbled seaward."

Below the surface of the unruffled water, a powerful undercurrent was running - and the twenty-three Marines were swept out.

Company Commander Captain Jack Westerman, immediately called on other Marines - to form a human chain and help the struggling swimmers to shore. But ^{the} human chain was helpless. The men standing in water - could not keep their feet. The undertow so powerful.

Second Lieutenant John Shanahan came running with a rubber liferaft, and pushed out. Swimmers reached the liferaft, and held on - but the raft couldn't get to shore.

Meanwhile, Battalion Commander Lieutenant Colonel Donovan, had ordered a ~~■~~ nearby helicopter to the scene - with a hundred feet of rope. One end of which was dropped to the raft, and the eggbeater hauled it back to shore. Twelve saved - but eleven Marines were missing.

People, familiar with the ways of the ocean in those parts, point out - that a typhoon has been moving along to the south of Okinawa. And a typhoon, commonly, causes freak undercurrents in tropical waters.

SHOOTING

Publisher Robert Harrison says - yes, it was an accident. Down in the Dominican Republic today, he confirmed the story told by big game hunter Richard Weldy. Who said the shotgun fired, when he dropped it accidentally. A charge of shot - hitting Harrison in the shoulder.

The publisher of the magazine "Confidential" agrees that there was a violent argument. When his hunting party, which included a blond night club singer - encountered Weldy in a remote forest wilderness. "Confidential" had published a racy article about Weldy's former wife, now the wife of Hollywood movie actor John Wayne. Which Weldy resented bitterly - hence the argument and accidental shooting.

However, the Dominican police were still holding Weldy today. Harrison - to tell them his story of the accident.

STEVENSON-BRIEFING

Adlai Stevenson has accepted President Eisenhower's offer - of weekly secret reports on foreign policy. The Democratic nominee prescribes one qualification - that there shall be "no restrictions on free and full discussion" of international issues.

Okay with the President. - ~~because~~, In Nineteen Fifty Two General Ike made the same condition. When he accepted foreign policy briefings, offered by President Truman.

Vice President Nixon addressed the American Legion convention at Los Angeles, today - representing President Eisenhower. He concentrated on world issues, and made a reply to what Adlai Stevenson told the Legion convention yesterday, when he advocated - an end of the draft - 'as early as possible consistent with national safety."

That Stevenson declaration drew a round of booing from the assembled legionaires - and Nixon, today, gave them the following:

"I would like to tell you," he said, "that we can ~~safely~~ cut our armed forces, and get rid of the draft, cut our defense spending - and reduce our taxes. Unfortunately, however, the easy way out - is seldom the right way. This is no time," he went on, "to suggest to our friends ~~or~~ or our possible opponents abroad - that America is getting soft and tired."

That statement drew prolonged applause, the Vice President interrupted forty-four times, today, by handclapping *and cheering.*

and cheering.

This "end-of-the-draft"-argument is curious - because the Democrats in Congress have been criticizing the Eisenhower administration for cutting military manpower. And here comes Adlai - wanting to stop the draft altogether. Of course, he qualifies by saying - as early as possible, consistent with national safety." Which could mean - anywhere in the future.

KIDNAP

The latest kidnap - ends in another horror. The body of six weeks old Cynthia Ruotolo found - in a lake. The murder - deliberate. The body - enclosed in a potato sack, weighted down by a stone. The pitiful discovery made, today, by three boys out fishing.

Lake Whitney is about a mile from the store in Hamden, Connecticut - where the child was taken from her baby carriage. Apparently - by a dumpy dark skinned woman.

This, following the Weinberger case, at Westbury, Long Island- is the second kidnap horror in recent weeks.

SEGREGATION

Warlike scenes in Sturgis, Kentucky, today - when National Guard soldiers with fixed bayonets, forced their way through a hostile crowd ^{that} ~~which~~ yelled - and shoved. The state soldiers - escorting nine negro pupils into the local high school. The riot so threatening - the National Guard had four tanks rumbling along the street, on patrol.

Governor Chandler of Kentucky says - he'll keep the soldiers at Sturgis as long as necessary. To guarantee the right of the negro pupils - to attend classes.

Meanwhile, some white parents took their children out of school. Class attendance today - only fifty percent of normal.

SIGHTSEEING BOAT

Another sightseeing boat crash - in New York's Harlem River. The second -in less than a month.

Today the boat, navigating around Manhattan Island was carrying three-hundred-and-fifty-eight sight-seers. And they saw -more than they expected. ~~xxx~~ Across the Harlem River, there's a draw-bridge. Which was opening - to permit a tugboat to pass through. The skipper of the sightseeing boat says - he was unable to keep his own craft clear of the swinging bridge. So the ponderous bridge-section - hit with a ~~xx~~ crash. Sheering off part of the pilot house of the sightseeing boat - and hurling a rain of debris on the passengers, who stood on the deck below. ~~Thirty~~ ^{Forty} injured - ~~five~~ ^{five} seriously.

The previous accident was at that same bridge across the Harlem River. August Eighth - when a sight-seeing boat ran into a pier of the bridge.

In the big town, it seems - sightseers may see more than that famous Manhattan skyline.

DYNAMITE

From Westport, Connecticut - an example of how not to dynamite a ditch. The blast - requiring all possible precautions. Being - only ~~km~~ ten feet from a local citizen's home.

The dynamite, in a ditch nine feet deep - should have been covered with chained logs. A strong protection - against the force of the blast. But instead of chained logs, the workman on the job covered the charge of dynamite - with loose boards. The result - a catastrophe.

The explosion hurled a barrage of boards, rocks and earth - which hit ^ethat nearby house. Knocking off the porch, wrecked ^{ing} the front door - and ^{even} flinging stones into the ~~at~~ attic.

No way to dynamite a ditch.

1/2
Tonight, you'll have a chance, and there won't be a better one - until ~~1978~~ the year two hundred and seventy-eight thousand, two hundred and fifty-four A.D. A chance,

that is - unless it's cloudy. *Where I am it's raining cats and dogs.*

Anyhow Tonight, at one ~~2:00~~ A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, the planet Mars will be only thirty-five million, ~~one hundred and twenty thousand~~ miles away from the earth. Which is mighty close - according to the way astronomers figure things. The red planet can be much farther away than that. Because of the elliptical orbits of Mars and this Earth, it can be as much as two-hundred-and-thirty-five million miles away. *Now 200 million miles nearer than that.*

All sorts of mathematical complications are involved.

But, at any rate - Mars, tonight, is at its nearest, for eons to come.

So naturally, it's a banner night for ~~the~~ astronomers, who have been engaged for weeks - in a worldwide effort. Seventeen observatories in ten countries - engaged

The good friend Cairo tonight is - fallers. The
in systematic study. They don't expect anything new and
startling. But they do hope they'll clear up a lot of
technical details. They believe there is life on Mars -
but only vegetation of a primitive sort. About which
they want - more data.

You and I, Henry, if the weather is clear - we
won't see anything so different tonight. The Red Planet
- just redder and brighter. Just over the hill - only
35 million miles away.